

Bark Daniel Webster Cruising in

Monday July 30th 1877

Comes in with light winds from the S. W. and good weather. Ship by the wind to the S. and W. Reindeer and Josephine in sight at 8 A.M. spoke the Reindeer in order to obtain the Log, a time to rate my Watch by which we are now running. On comparing Watch with the Reindeer's find the Watch is 54 the fastest making us 13 1/2 miles far E than the R. at 9 the Wind changed into the N. lifting the fog and then raised a school of large sperm Whales going off to the S. E. as both ships were together we agreed Capt. Baker and myself to mate. That is if we obtained but one whale to divide him between us, alongside us best, and as near equal as possible and then the mating should end, unless to divide in case one ship should have a larger share; and not follow the usual custom of remaining mated, so long as either ship should be boiling. In case two whales were obtained then each ship should take one and take care of it. After agreeing on terms of mating we then got our boats and crews to our respective ships and lowered for the whales. The Reindeer pulled to the leeward. Mr. Pope, W. B. soon struck and got rolled over. Mr. Near went hooked up the line and killed the whale. The Reindeer took the boat and boat's crew on board. While Mr. Francis made three attempts to get to the whale and failed, all three times. Lat. 50.20 had chances to get in and his boatmen a good chance to strike. Twice he dashed and by lat just pricked the whale. About 2 P.M. however we took the whale alongside. In the P.M. cut his body in. The Reindeer's boats chasing the school, and the Josephine with boats down and chasing also. near night the R. manouevred as though her boats were fast - had main top gall sail closed down called the whale 100 bbls.

The North Atlantic Ocean in 1877

Tuesday July 31st 1877

Comes in with fine weather and moderate breezes from N. W. at 7 A.M. commenced cutting on the whale head. got it all in and ran hauled by 4 1/2 P.M. Started the works and cut up just R. setting water at 8 P.M. In the morn saw the Reindeer cutting to the leeward. she got through and braced full about the same time we did. we passed her just at dusk with her cutting tables still rigged out. saw Josephine to leeward with considerable sail out. saw porpoises & finbacks through the day. several sails and two steamers, water green and blue with plenty of sharks around the ship while cutting.

Lat 50.15 Long 22.05

Wednesday Aug. 1st 1877

Comes in with moderate breezes from N. W. and hazy weather. Ship by the wind boiling on opposite tack. Josephine in sight in the P.M. saw Bark Reindeer to the leeward, boiling - saw through the day finbacks porpoises and two steamers. Watch boiling, driving the works as fast as possible.

Lat 50.17 Long 22.08

Thursday Aug. 2d 1877

Comes in with moderate breezes from S and quite good weather. Ship cruising by the wind to the W with all prudent sail out. work employed in boiling - several sails in sight the Josephine among the number - saw through the day porpoises & finbacks and Grampuses. In the P.M. the weather threatening and looking very much like a storm at night had finished boiling excepting the flukes and fat lean. Lat. 50.37 Long 22.14

Friday Aug 3d 1877

Comes in with a gale of wind rain and fog from the South - Ship lying under easy sail having finished boiling in the night, the whale turning up on deck 120 bbls. besides the fat lean oil 4 bbls - at 4 P.M. the wind changed suddenly to N. W. - wore ship to S. W. No Obs.